

## Jewish Spirituality

What connotations do the words "Jewish spirituality" summon up for you? Judaism has no mantras, no monks nor monasteries. What is Jewish spirituality and how can we enhance it? This was the theme of a recently completed four-week Education Committee class led by Rabbi Yoel Kahn.

The class explored our ideas about what spirituality is, how we have experienced it and its relationship to personal and communal prayer. We discussed our spiritual yearnings and how we can develop a closer relationship with God. Listening to one another, we learned that some of us have found Judaism to be lacking in spirituality while others have been enriched by it. One participant thought of "Jewish spirituality" as an oxymoron, which led to a lengthy discussion of what we were taught or what we experienced in the synagogues in which we grew up.

Is spirituality a shiver when the Torah is lifted from the ark? A rush when singing *L'cha Dodi* or chanting the *V'ahavta* or the Mourner's Kaddish? Or experiencing Shabbat as a time of communion with nature? Is it participating in social action, living out one's religious ideals? These exploratory sessions brought the class together, deepened our awareness of the richness of the Jewish spiritual tradition and encouraged all of us to pursue the topic further.

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Rabbi Kahn will teach "The Kabbalah and Jewish Symbols" on four Tuesday evenings, beginning on March 7. Also beginning the same evening, "Prayerbook Hebrew." This is a class for those who know how to read the alphabet but have always wanted to know what the words mean. More information will appear in next month's Forward.

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# New Chavurot

## Dinner Chavurah Forming

Have you ever wanted more time socializing with other members of Sha'ar Zahav, getting to know new members or catching up with ones you already know? A dinner chavurah is being formed at CSZ so you can eat dinner with a different group each month. Each participant (or couple) will be assigned to a different dinner group each month. We plan to rotate so that we eat with different folks each month! Being able to host a meal is not a requirement for participation in the chavurah.

If you are interested in joining the chavurah, contact Jerry Hipps at 431-4113. We need to set a date for our first dinner and plan subsequent dinners. Jerry needs to know if you are participating alone or with someone, are able to host, the number of people you can host comfortably, your address and telephone number. A list will be mailed to all participants for this spring's dinner cycle.

## Israel Chavurah

For the past half-year or so, many CSZ members and friends have been getting together to discuss various issues concerning Israel. Informal discussions in the summer led to the recent successful five-session education program on Israel. The program included prominent speakers presenting the history of the Arab/Jewish conflict, the Israeli election, the current Palestinian Arab uprising, religious/secular relations and a concluding facilitated discussion which addressed our personal relationship to Israel.

The participants strongly desire to continue the vibrant and stimulating interaction which occurs when aspects

Continued on page 4

## Rabbi's Column

## New Opportunities

At Sha'ar Zahav, we pride ourselves on doing things ourselves. We have our own original prayerbooks, our members actively participate in and lead our worship, and we are blessed with an extraordinary level of volunteer involvement and commitment.

We face challenges, though, in continuing to do things ourselves and in meeting the needs of our members. Our growth has made our Friday evening services less intimate than they once were. Many people come to the synagogue looking for community but feel lost (and squished!) in the Oneg room. Both seasoned and new members alike, having found their way back to Judaism through Sha'ar Zahav, now seek to deepen their Jewish knowledge and practice. In order to begin to address these needs, I am pleased to announce the organization of three new chavurot at Sha'ar Zahav.

*Chavurah* means "a group" or "community." In customary American usage, a chavurah is a formally organized group of people who voluntarily join together for study and community. Over the last 15 years, many synagogues have started chavurot as a means for people to build connections within the larger synagogue organization and to enhance personal Jewish commitment and observance.

Continued on page 8

### To our readers:

Please note our new calendar which now appears on the last page of each issue and incorporates the Ritual Calendar. We hope you find this new format convenient and helpful.



## There's No Place Like Home

I grew up in Oakland, New Jersey, a small town about 40 minutes outside of New York City with a population of about 12,000. There are very few Jewish families in Oakland; only about 15 of the 400 graduates in my high school class were Jewish. Anti-Semitism was a part of my childhood experience, though, thankfully, not an everyday occurrence. My most vivid memory was in the seventh grade when, for about a week, a group of non-Jewish kids followed the Jewish kids around and threw pennies at us. When we complained to the school officials, we were told that "there's nothing we can do about it."

The synagogue of my youth, the Jewish Community Center of Oakland (now called Temple Emmanuel), was where I went to Hebrew school, became a bas mitzvah, dressed up on Purim, and attended high holiday (and occasionally Friday night) services. I don't have the fondest memories of the JCCO as, much of the time I spent there, I felt alienated from what was going on around me—the rabbi was orthodox, the synagogue conservative, and most of the members reform (which makes for a fascinating combination).

My parents still live in Oakland, and I recently went back for Thanksgiving and my 10-year high school reunion. What greeted me was horrifying news: On the Friday before Thanksgiving, Temple Emmanuel had been desecrated—the outside rear wall had been covered in black and red paint with anti-Semitic, Nazi and neo-Nazi slogans and swastikas. Even a nearby street sign reading "Dead End" was vandalized to read "Dead Jew."

I was shocked. This was not the kind of anti-Semitism I experienced growing up. Oakland is not the model of racial and ethnic integration, but this? No, this was not the Oakland I knew. I developed an enormous lump in my throat. I wanted to cry. I wanted to scream. I felt immobilized but I wanted to do something. *Anything*. How dare they—whoever they are—do this to my childhood synagogue, in my home town?

My parents went on to describe the town's response. The police chief, after notifying the rabbi, called the high school principal. The principal, the stu-

dent council adviser, and members of TNT—Teens Need Teens—mobilized an impromptu after-school clean-up squad. By 3 pm, over two dozen students and one dozen faculty members (very few of whom were Jewish) converged on the temple with graffiti eradication equipment, soap, water, brushes and hoses. What they couldn't remove was sandblasted off the following Monday, thanks to the high school principal and the school superintendent. Then the students put together a volunteer crew to repaint the synagogue's wall. A far cry from the response 15 years earlier of "there's nothing we can do about it." I was proud; I felt better.

My parents told me the rabbi's response—after his call from the police chief, he called every member of the congregation to tell them what happened and to encourage them to attend services that night to show that they were united, and to comfort each other. My father went and said it looked like high holidays—he never remembered such an attendance on a Friday night.

On the Friday after Thanksgiving, I attended my high school reunion. With the exception of two people, I hadn't kept in touch with anyone since graduation day in May of 1978. In nearly all of the conversations I had (and heard) that night, people were cordial, filling each other in on the past 10 years—schools, jobs, residences, marriages, children, etc. Not surprisingly, nothing particularly deep was discussed.

At midnight, when the disc jockey played the last song and we were all supposed to go home, I found myself in a circle of about six people. We were talking and couldn't (and didn't want to) stop. And then I realized who this group was—my Hebrew school class (actually, about half of it). Conversation quickly turned to the desecration of the temple and the community's response. We talked of our memories of growing up Jewish in Oakland and of our memories of the synagogue: the pennies, being the only kids absent on high holidays, going to Hebrew classes and bar and bas mitzvah lessons, and attending the weekly succession of bar and bas mitzvahs the spring of the seventh grade.

For the first time during the evening,

there was something meaningful to the conversation. We were connected to each other and anxious to reminisce about our shared experiences. There are certain bonds that even 10 years and 3000 miles can't break.

—Robin Leonard, President

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## Anniversaries

28 Joel A. Wasser & Robin Barron

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*The Jewish Gaily Forward* is published 11 times annually by Congregation Sha'ar Zahav, 220 Danvers at Caselli, San Francisco, California 94114, (415) 861-6932. Permission to reproduce non-copyrighted material is freely given, and credit would be appreciated.

Members of the Congregation receive the *Forward*. For a donation of \$12/year, non-members will receive the *Forward*.

All newsletter copy should be typed, double-spaced and is due no later than the date of the Va'ad meeting. It should be sent to the synagogue office, marked to the attention of the *Forward*. All material is subject to editing; material will not be returned.

Members of the Newsletter Committee are Alita Rosenfeld & Howard Blechman, co-chairs, Stephanie Hannaford, Henry Mach, and Leonard Brill (general editorial and production), Amy Blasenheim (photos), Rick Wilson (advertising coordinator), Frank Hyman, Alex Ingersoll, Sam Thal and Eli Weinstein (distribution). The *Forward* is typeset by David Lester, Pagesetter Typography and printed by Lou Greene.

**Display Ads** are \$15 per column inch for non-members and \$10 per column inch for members, with discounts available for size and frequency. Ads should be camera ready; any ads that require typesetting, camera and/or artwork will be subject to a one-time production charge.

**Classified Ads** are \$5 for up to 20 words, plus \$1 for each 10 additional words. No personals accepted.

Payment must accompany ad and should be sent to Congregation Sha'ar Zahav, 220 Danvers at Caselli, San Francisco, California 94114, marked attention *Forward* advertising. The advertising deadline is the second Monday of the month. The *Forward* reserves the right to reject any ad for reasons of taste.



# Quilt Redux

We had occasion to go to the "Threads of Love" Names Project Quilt at the Moscone Center during the middle of last month, and once again, we were overwhelmed by the magnitude of the Quilt—its meaning, its size, and its artistic scope. It is truly an experience that has no comparison anywhere in the world.

Last year the Quilt barely filled one-third of the cavern that is the two foot-ball field long Moscone; we shuffled, huddled, sadly buttressed each other as we paid homage to our departed. There was something so unreal about the actuality of the Quilt—by that time, we had accepted the fact that so many people had died. It was awesome to realize, however, that so many other people had

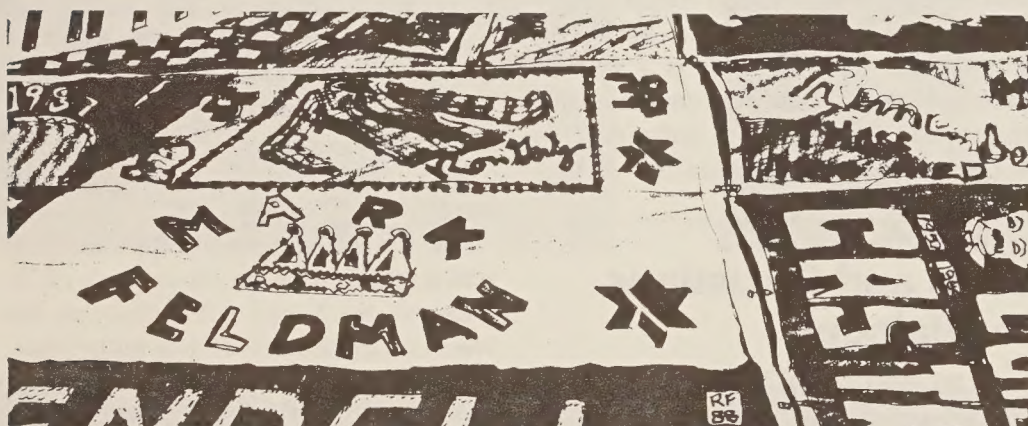
same group as last year and for whatever eternity faces these fragile fabric memorials. As we approach the 1990s, the dates of those deaths are receding to what seems a lifetime ago. Our frail beige rectangles with violet felt Sha'ar Zahav Stars of David have so far endured the folding, unfolding and travel to the far points of our country. Here and there, some hot-glued corner is lifting, but the totality of each remains as impressive as when it was fabricated.

We stood silently leaning on one another as we contemplated the lives of the congregation members that are commemorated by our panels. We felt the inner sobs bubbling to the surface, but found it difficult to cry as deeply as we did the last time. Time, it seems, does

We found the variety and artistry of the panels one of the strongest elements present in our second viewing. Has so much emotion and passion been translated into so many varied visual terms anywhere else on this planet? To wander, then, in Moscone Center was to wander in the world's largest art museum, filled with works from lay artists and professional artists alike, and thus, a new viewing experience. The overall quality and originality was sublime. We thought, as we gazed from one end of the room, of the sentiment phrased on one panel: "Why is God picking all of his flowers at one time?" and we had no answer that we could verbalize.

We overheard one congregation member who noted the very real difference in Moscone Center between the living and the dead—the visitors were vertical; the deceased had been reduced to horizontal panels. However, as the monument to our late young friends and family grows arithmetically, the impact of the loss, measured out in these meaningful rectangles, cannot help but increase geometrically.

We have mixed feelings about our next viewing for we cannot predict what emotions and ideas will flood over us then.



put forth such effort to create this communal bereavement.

This year other factors entered our consciousness as we stood there in the soft white glare and gazed down the long gray aisles separating the square segments of quilt panels that seemed to stretch (and indeed *did* stretch) even to outside the building, for sadly, the Quilt had trebled in size. It now filled the entire floor of the Moscone Center, the four walls, and some panels even were hanging in the windows in the front ground level entranceway. All those truncated lives, all those emotion-laden panels, with no end yet in sight!

Not unlike the Metropolitan Museum in New York City, the Quilt has grown too large to visually grasp at one visit. We randomly chose aisles and cross-aisles and followed our eyes to whatever drew us. Then we happened on the Sha'ar Zahav panels—laced up in the

have this way with our hearts and our grieving.

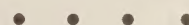
There have been many other times during this past year where the sorrow has been cleansed by tears. The constancy of living where you lived, but alone; photographs, friends' recollections and anecdotes, vivid, then fading, dreams about the deceased—all have removed some of the poignancy when viewing the Quilt.

But this time, we were struck with the breadth of style and content of the various panels. We walked past Liberace's gold sequins with swirling piano, past Hirshfeld's Michael Bennett tribute, and the Tom Waddell interlocked (dare we say it?) "Olympic" rings. We discovered the unadorned name of a friend we had known a while back—known, and then simply drifted from—and we knew the answer to an unasked (until then) question.



**RALPH FRISCHMAN**  
DESIGN CONSULTANTS

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415 626 9914





# Potlucks

## Women's Chavurah

### Potluck in the East Bay

On Saturday, January 14, the Women's Chavurah will have a potluck at Alita and Kate's in Berkeley. The evening will begin with Havdalah at 5 pm, followed by dinner—usually a wonderful combination of old favorites and new delights. Those whose last names begin with S–Z should bring desserts (most important of course), A–K should bring a main dish, and those whose last names begin with L–R should bring a salad or vegetable. Alita and Kate's home is at 1400 McGee, on the corner of Rose in north Berkeley. If you need directions, or if you're just so enthusiastic that you can't resist letting us know you're coming, please call Kate or Alita at 526-2394.

## Education Committee

### Relationships and Bagels

So? What's the connection? The connection is Sunday, February 12 for a brunching workshop on relationships: getting into one, staying in one, getting out of one and keeping out. It's an opportunity to begin to think about relationships and how they work, what goes into them and what to do about problems. The workshop will be led by Drs. Susan Strong and Michael Bettinger. The bagels? For brunching. Noon, Sunday, February 12. Read next month's *Forward* for more details!

## Children's Chavurah

### Tu B'Shevat

The Children's Chavurah will celebrate Tu B'Shevat on Saturday, January 21, from 11 am (following Kadimah) to 2 pm at Blanche and Adrienne's home, 615 Detroit, San Francisco. Our celebration includes a potluck lunch and tree-planting. All members of the congregation are welcome to participate. Call the synagogue for more information.

### New Member Potluck

The entire congregation is invited to a potluck honoring our new members on Sunday, January 22, from 4 to 7 pm. It will be at the home of Don Albert, 3621 22nd St. in San Francisco, between Church and Sanchez. This is a small, informal way to meet other members of the community. Children welcome. If you have questions, please call 641-5113.

### Jews and Christians in Dialogue

CSZ member Rabbi Dr. Sanford Lowe will be the featured speaker at a three-part series on "Jews and Christians in Dialogue." Co-sponsored by the CSZ Adult Education Committee and Metropolitan Community Church, the Wednesday evening programs will meet alternately at the church and the synagogue on Wednesday, February 15, 22 and March 1 at 7:45 pm.

## MEMBERSHIP

Check it out.  
Besides the benefits  
it feels good to be  
part of Sha'ar Zahav.

## Israel Chavurah

(Continued from page 1)

of Israeli life are discussed. To accomplish this, an Israel Chavurah is being formed. We hope to meet approximately once a month at the synagogue, in our homes or at an Israel-related cultural event.

Among the goals of the chavurah may be:

- Israel cultural programming;
- Liaison to gay/lesbian Israelis residing in or visiting the Bay Area;
- Forum to discuss current events in Israel;
- Bringing secular Israeli observances of holidays to CSZ;
- Monthly "Israel" column in the *Forward*.

The first get-together of the chavurah will tentatively be an observance of Tu B'shevat, the Israeli Arbor Day, on the weekend of January 21. For more information, call Paul (566-5946) or Ron (824-4449). It doesn't matter whether you've lived in Israel, visited there, or simply care about Israel. We hope you will participate in the events of the chavurah.

## ATTORNEY

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## **Luau Hits the Chron**

**T**he December 14 issue of our morning newspaper had an item about our Chanukah party in Herb Caen's column. If you didn't attend, you now know what you missed!



## Library Notes

### Wanted: Lively Storytellers

The Sha'ar Zahav Library Committee wants to host a storytime for children. If you can spin a good yarn or enjoy retelling familiar stories, we are looking for you. Don't let this opportunity for a mitzvah go to waste! Call Bill Goldstein at 793-4283 or Bill Ashley-Dobbin at 552-3047 or the office.

Other plans announced at the recent Library Committee meeting include joining the Association of Jewish Libraries. The library will also begin to purchase more books this month. Don't let that keep you from donating, however. If you feel that you have some books, audio tapes or video tapes that would be appropriate for the library, please call the librarian.

Have you checked a book or audio tape out from the library and forgotten to return it? Remember that others may want to use it. Missing from the library: *The Jewish Songbook* by Abraham Idesohn and about five High Holy Day tapes. If you know anything about them, please help us get them back as soon as possible.

Finally, is there a carpenter in the house? (We know we have many doctors and lawyers.) I'm hoping someone out there can help me create more shelf space. We are in the happy position of having more books than shelf space! If you can help, call the synagogue office.

—Bill Ashley-Dobbin, Librarian

### Condolences

We at Congregation Sha'ar Zahav extend our sympathy to those who have suffered a recent loss.

To **Nanci Stern** on the loss of her friend, Jacqueline Hutchins.

To **Roger Klorese** on the loss of his mother, Ann Klorese.

To **Eileen Dunn** on the loss of his father Abraham Dunn.

To **Congregation Sha'ar Zahav** on the loss of its member, Bruce Apter.

**UAHC**  
**Regional Biennial**  
**Northern California Council**  
February 24–26, 1989  
Monterey, California

## Yahrzeits

1	(Tevet 24) Avrum Ya'kov Berenstein, grandfather of Allan Berenstein	25	father of Michael Bettinger
1	Fannie Silverman, grandfather of Sharyn Saslafsky	25	Mignon Ginsburg, grandmother of Pamela Ruskin
1	Rusty Smith, friend of Bernard Pechter	26	Dan Druid, friend of Alita Rosenfeld
1	Glenn Childress, brother of Joyce Amburgey	27	Cheryl Orvis, member of Congregation Sha'ar Zahav (Shevat 21) Jonathan Halpern, friend of Jonathan Schwartz
3	Mark Pearlman, friend of Steven & Florence Nacamulli	28	Estelle Lieberman, mother of Beatrice and Deborah Lieberman and grandmother of Ma'ayan Lieberman
5	Joseph Glassberg, uncle of David Glassberg	28	Michael J. McCormick, Sr., father of Michael J. McCormick, Jr. (Shevat 22) Minnie Wiseman, grandmother of Jonathan Funk
9	(Shevat 3) Sol Weinstein, father of Eli Weinstein	28	Joseph Burke, father of Ken Burke
9	(Shevat 3) Morris Gabay, father of Ed Gabay	29	(Shevat 23) Morris Richshafer, uncle of Sherie Ann Koshover
10	Yetta Grossman, grandmother of Lane Schickler	29	Phillip Kalis, father of Betty Kalis
11	(Shevat 5) Max Rosenstein, father of Jerry Rosenstein	31	Scott Swisher, brother of Rebecca Swisher
11	Bill Chalmers, father of Tiela Chalmers	31	Temple Morris Radovsky, mother of Laurie Radovsky
12	Adeline Brilliant, aunt of Allan Gold		
13	Marion Howes, grandmother of Marion Trentman		
13	Steve Schwartz, brother of Sunny Schwartz		
14	Sam Shaber, brother of David Shaber		
15	Rose Bud Macks, grandmother of Judy Macks		
17	Iris Medina del Moral, step-mother of Rosalinda del Moral		
18	Ben Blachman, father of Martha and Blanche Blachman and grandfather of Benjamin Blachman Forshay		
18	(Shevat 12) Clare Schmidt, grandmother of Don Albert		
18	Sophie Rosten, mother of Jerry Rosenstein		
18	Lewis Edward Greenwald, brother of Susan Greenwald		
20	Anna Kimerling, grandmother of Allyce Kimerling		
20	Ralph Douglass, father of Sue Douglass and grandfather of Sonia Douglass		
20	Sophie Sagorsky, grandmother of Marc Lipschutz		
24	Bill Dobkins, brother of Jim Dobkins		
25	Lev Liberman, father of Gershon Lieberman		
25	(Shevat 19) Abraham Hoffman, father of Arlene Hoffman		
25	(Shevat 19) Abraham Bettinger,		

### Oneg Sponsors

During November onegs were sponsored by the following generous people:

4	Howard Bobren and the Bikkur Cholim Committee in honor of the Kaiser Brunch program and its volunteers, in celebration of its first anniversary.
11	Johanna Johnson, in memory of Marc Wagner and in honor of Mantra's birthday
18	Bill Ashley-Dobbin, in honor of those who worked on the Oneg Committee this year
25	Frank Hyman, Ron Wilmot, Alex Ingersoll, David Stein, and Allan Berenstein, in honor of Sam Thal's retirement

All you have to do to sponsor an oneg is to think of the occasion and contact the synagogue office (861-6932). The cost of sponsoring an oneg is \$50. You can also provide the food, flowers, etc. for a more personal touch.



## Contributions

Sha'ar Zahav welcomes all contributions, of all sizes, to mark any event, and to any of our funds. Contributions will be acknowledged in the *Forward* unless requested otherwise.

Donations were made to Sha'ar Zahav's funds in the past months by the following contributors:

### AIDS Fund

Walter Palmer, in memory of David Hyman  
Jonathan Schwartz, in memory of George Jalbert  
Rabbi Richard Sternberger  
George Ash, in honor of Rabbi Kahn's healing sessions and services  
Ellen Kugler, in memory of Sheri Reiss

### Bikkur Cholim Fund

Shelley Spiro, in memory of John Golebowski

### Building Fund

George Ash, in honor of Muscle System Health Clubs' eighth year anniversary

### Education Fund

Pam Hefferman, in the names of Peg Langham, and her mother Inge Blank Langham, who was 13 years old when she answered the door on Kristallnacht  
Jay Davidson, in honor of the naming of Hal Podgur's grandson Matthew

### Rabbi's Discretionary Fund

Bill Ashley-Dobbin, in memory of Ashley Dobbin  
Michael Bettinger and Robert Goldstein, in honor of the first anniversary of their kiddushin  
Shelley Montgomery, in honor of Cheryl Price's continuing recovery  
Betty Kalis, in memory of Esther Kalis  
George Ash, in honor of his mother Freda Ash's wonderful stay in San Francisco  
Eve Meyer and Jim Edlin, in honor of their wedding  
Jonathan Funk and John Arnold, in honor of the Rabbi's 30th birthday

### Torah Fund

Susan Horst, in honor of Martha Campbell, Ernie Phinney, and Ted Loring on being 40, and thanking them for 20-plus years of friendship

### General Fund

Richard Gerrig, in honor of Lee Ryan and Robin Leonard's 100-month anniversary  
Allen Harris, in memory of Ida Levinson  
Ernie Weinstein, in memory of Norman Shafer  
Michael Bettinger and Robert Goldstein, in honor of the first anniversary of their kiddushin  
Allan Berenstein, in memory of Irene Richardson

### Prayerbook Fund

Elaine and Alan Orvis, in honor of Steve Greenberg  
Bonnie Bishop and Amy Weston, in memory of Adam Honigstein

### Kadimah Fund

Eve Meyer and Jim Edlin

## Naches

To Lisa Katz who has passed the bar exam.

To Alissa Friedman, on winning the grand prize (a trip to Hawaii) in our Chanukah raffle.

Mazel tov to Hal Podgur on the recent marriage of his youngest daughter, Leslie, and on the naming of his grandson, Matthew.

#### Editor's Note:

We want to know about and publish your naches. Please call the office with the information or Howard at 821-0332, so everybody can share the happy news.

## New Members

The Membership Committee is pleased to announce that our congregation gained several new members and friends in December. A warm welcome to the latest people to join our family:

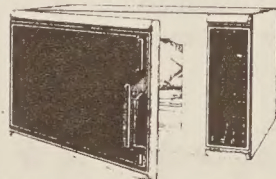
Lenore Cohen  
Jan Harband  
Carol Heller  
Elizabeth Katz  
Roger Klorese  
Peggy Mason  
Robin Rosenbaum  
Abigail Ryszka-McIntosh  
Shelley Samuels  
Susan Sobel-Feldman  
Martin Spector  
Susan Tubbesing  
Deborah Udin  
Jo Whittle and Jonathan Zucker  
Martha Zimet

New members are welcomed and honored at Friday night services on the last Friday of the month. By making them feel a part of our family, we can all help to show our new members that they have a valuable place at Sha'ar Zahav.

**Remember** to keep us up to date. If you've moved, changed your name, have a new phone number, or wish to add a listing to our yahrzeit or anniversary records, please call or write the synagogue office.

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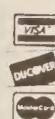
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## Jewish Community Museum Exhibition

Two exhibitions, "Traditions vs. Perception: Female Imagery in the Art of Arona" and "Reflections," open at the Jewish Community Museum, 121 Steuart St., San Francisco on Thursday, January 5. Each brings to the viewer the theme of personal images explored in different ways. One is the work of a noted Israeli artist; the other the product of a very special group of San Francisco artists.

**Tradition vs. Perception**, January 5 through March 5, fills the museum's upper gallery with the striking oil portraits of Israeli artist Arona Reiner. She comments about her choice of subjects, "While studying the history of art, I happened upon the following realization: that women were always portrayed by artists as symbols for what has commonly represented the attributes of the 'other' sex: beauty, physical pleasure and motherhood, etc. As a result of this conclusion, I decided to try and paint women in the context of their own personal life and image, without the fetters of these stereotyped symbols, so that the woman is liberated from the typical portrayal of women in art."

**Reflections**, in the museum's lower gallery from January 5 through February 26, displays selected paintings and drawings by resident artists of San Francisco's Jewish Home for the Aged. The average age of the artists is over 87. Most of the work consists of self-portraits, paintings of the artists' families or special memories. They, too, provide unique personal images.

The Jewish Community Museum is open to the public on Sunday through Friday, from 10 am to 4 pm (except for Jewish and national holidays). Free admission.

### IMAGINE THE POSSIBILITIES

Goal-oriented, down-to-earth counseling in the here and now for the individual or couple wishing to work on issues of life's frustrations and transitions, relationships, illness and injury. By appointment.

Carol Fiul, M.A. (415) 921-7918

(415) 921-7918

## Help at Home

Jewish Family & Children's Services is pleased to announce the opening of the Help at Home Program, designed to assist the elderly and disabled in all aspects of home management. The program provides home care and companion placements, culinary service, laundry pick-up and delivery, and personal affairs management (bill-paying services).

The Help at Home Program eliminates the need to call many different agencies for home support services. With one phone call you can secure all the services you need or someone you care about may need. Help at Home offers a free initial home consultation and clients pay no fee until help has been found for them. The staff continues to oversee clients' care on an ongoing basis to make sure that their needs are being met. For more information about Help at Home, contact Barbara Waxman at 776-2573.

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## Birthdays

- 1 Steven James Hanely
- 4 Maggie Rochlin
- 6 Nathan R.
- 9 Max Rossoff Nichols
- 11 Ellen Giersen
- 12 Florence Nacamulli
- 12 Tiela Chalmers
- 13 Amy Paula Blasenheim
- 19 Mike Rankin
- 19 Yolande Schneeman
- 21 Stephen Rosenbaum
- 21 Johanna Johnson
- 23 Julia Carol Hanely
- 25 Dana Lear
- 25 Neil Hart
- 27 Maacah M.
- 29 David Nahmod
- 30 Jenny Helbraun
- 30 Ruth A.

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## Classified Ads

NICE JEWISH CAR for sale. '81 Toyota Corolla. New clutch/tires. 5-speed. Good condition. Call 821-3837 in San Francisco.

## Rabbi's Column

(Continued from page 1)

At Sha'ar Zahav, we use the word *chavurah* as part of the name of committees serving groups within the congregation: the Women's Chavurah and the Children's Chavurah. These groups have activities which are open to everyone interested.

The chavurot now being organized at Sha'ar Zahav were each proposed by different individuals in the synagogue. Each one has a different orientation (these names may be temporary until the members choose something more creative): the Israel Chavurah, the Spirituality Chavurah and the Dinner Chavurah.

**The Spirituality Chavurah** is being organized at the request of the participants in the Fall Education Committee class "Jewish Spirituality." The four-session class brought people together who wished to explore prayer, Jewish practice, meditation and ritual as routes to deepening their own spirituality and Jewish observance. You do *not* have to have taken the class to join the chavurah; it is open to any CSZ member. An organizing meeting will be held on Tuesday evening, January 31, at 7:30 pm at the synagogue. For more information or to RSVP, please call Larry Wexler at 523-6775.

**The Israel Chavurah** is the result of our different programs about Israel over the last year. This chavurah is intended for people who wish to learn about Israel, discuss current affairs and ongoing issues, and to celebrate with an Israeli flair. Elsewhere in the *Forward* is an article which announces an organizing event. Gail Friedlander and Ron Lezell are helping to get the Israel Chavurah started.

**The Dinner Chavurah** is primarily social. Members will gather at different homes each month to share a meal and social evening together. Contact Jerry Hipps at 431-4113 to sign up.

If these chavurot are successful, wouldn't it be wonderful to organize others? If you are interested in forming a new chavurah, please let me know.

—Rabbi Yoel Kahn



## December Va'ad Report

Robin Leonard opened the meeting and immediately addressed the need for a recorder. Bill Goldstein was unanimously elected by the Va'ad. To fill his now vacant seat on the Va'ad, Merry Luskin, chair of the Membership Committee was nominated and unanimously elected.

Rabbi Kahn, in his D'var Torah, contrasted the reluctance to change with the enthusiastic embrace of change.

The treasurer's report involved implementing Sha'ar Zahav procedures concerning members who have neither pledged this year nor paid completely last year's dues. They will be receiving a letter explaining that their memberships will be terminated if they fail to make arrangement for their dues.

Robin Leonard presented her president's report which included a proposal for a spring fund-raising concert starring Ronnie Gilbert, a former member of the Weavers who now often performs with Holly Near. The Va'ad went over this proposal carefully as Sha'ar Zahav has not done anything quite like this before. It is expected the concert will raise upwards of \$8,000. The Va'ad voted to continue planning for such a concert.

The participation of Sha'ar Zahav in the Jewish Federation's Super Sunday fund-raising activities was also accepted by the Va'ad. This was after considerable debate. Important arguments were presented for both continued participation and non-participation.

Merry Luskin, as chair of the Membership Committee, proposed the names of 16 new members. The Va'ad unanimously voted them in. The Va'ad gave a round of applause to Merry for her outstanding work with Membership.

Eric Keitel gave a brief preliminary report on the Chanukah party. There will be a thorough accounting of the event at the next meeting, but for the moment it looks like the party was a significant success, with much praise for Allyce Kimmerling and her committee. On the finance side, more money was raised than the past year and Sha'ar Zahav should make approximately \$5,000 profit.

The Va'ad retired into closed session to continue its discussion on personnel matters.

—Bill Goldstein, Recorder

## Synagogue Information

### Rabbi Yoel Kahn

#### Officers:

*President*, Robin Leonard  
*Vice President*, Eric Keitel  
*Treasurer*, Ben Schalit  
*Acting Recorder*, Bill Goldstein

#### Va'ad (Board) Members:

Don Albert  
 Allan Berenstein  
 Tiela Chalmers  
 Bill Goldstein  
 Steve Greenberg  
 Merry Luskin  
 Jose Luis Moscovich  
 Alita Rosenfeld  
 Jonathan Schwartz  
 Dana Vinicoff  
 Richard Inlander (ex officio)

**Services** are held every Friday evening beginning at 8:15 pm (except as noted), with an Oneg Shabbat following services. Services are generally held on the last Saturday of each month at 10:30 am — check calendar for each month.

**Congregation Sha'ar Zahav** (Congregation of the Golden Gate) is located in the Upper Market District of San Francisco at 220 Danvers at Caselli, which is one block south of the intersection of 18th & Market streets. By public transport, take MUNI bus 33 Stanyan to 18th & Danvers and walk one block south on Danvers to Caselli.

**Member Union of American Hebrew Congregations** (Mike Rankin, Liaison) and **World Congress of Gay and Lesbian Jewish Organizations** (Ora Prochovnick, Liaison).

### Committee Chairs:

*Bikkur Cholim*, Paul Cohen  
*Brotherhood*, by committee  
*Building*, Ken Burke  
*Bylaws*, Richard Inlander  
*Cemetery*, Richard Inlander  
*Children's Chavurah*, Sue Douglass & Jill Rose  
*Cookbook Project*, Sanford Friedman  
*Education*, by committee  
*Finance*, Don Albert  
*Long-Range Planning*, Tiela Chalmers & Daniel Chesir  
*Membership*, Merry Luskin  
*Newsletter*, Howard Blechman & Alita Rosenfeld  
*Oneg*, Bill Ashley-Dobbin  
*Past Presidents Council*, Leila Raim  
*Personnel*, Irene Ogus  
*Public Relations*, Sharyn Saslafsky & Andy Zimmerman  
*Religious School*, David Gellman & Ida Kuluk  
*Ritual*, Steve Greenberg; assistant, Ora Prochovnick  
*Social Action*, Jonathan Mesinger  
*Social Program*, by committee  
*Women's Chavurah*, Ann Biderman

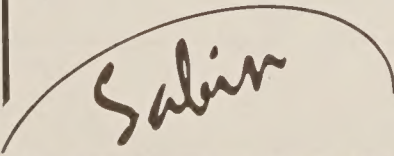
### Office Personnel:

*Manager*, Jenny Helbraun  
*Secretary*, Leticia Montealegre

**Office Hours:** Mon. 9–5; Tue. 1–5; Wed. 10–6; Thu. 9–5; Fri. 11–5.

**Emergency Number:** In an emergency, the Congregation can be contacted outside of office hours by calling 420-9718.

**DR. DIANE SABIN**  
**3892—24TH STREET**  
**SAN FRANCISCO**  
**CA 94114**  
**415/826-8300**



**CHIROPRACTIC**



## JANUARY 1989

## טבת-שבט

**1** Sunday  
24 Tevet  
New Year's Day

**2** Monday  
25 Tevet  
• 7:30pm, Education Committee

**3** Tuesday  
26 Tevet

**4** Wednesday  
27 Tevet

**5** Thursday  
28 Tevet  
• 7:30pm, Long-Range Planning Meeting

**6** Friday  
29 Tevet  
Parshat Va'era  
Shabbat Rosh Chodesh Shevat  
• 6:15pm, Kabbalat Shabbat Service, Aaron Frankel  
• 8:15pm, Services, Henry Mach

**7** Saturday  
1 Shevat  
Shabbat Rosh Chodesh Shevat  
• 9am, Kadimah

**8** Sunday  
2 Shevat  
• 4pm, Ensemble

**9** Monday  
3 Shevat  
• 6:30pm, Va'ad meeting

**10** Tuesday  
4 Shevat

**11** Wednesday  
5 Shevat  
• 11:30am, Soviet Vigil, Green & Baker Streets  
• 7:15pm, Newsletter editing, 3676 17th St.

**12** Thursday  
6 Shevat

**13** Friday  
7 Shevat  
Parshat Bo  
• 8:15pm, Services, Tiela Chalmers. The Torah will be read.

**14** Saturday  
8 Shevat  
• 9am, Kadimah  
• 4pm, Liturgy of Healing Service  
• 5pm, Women's Chavurah Potluck, Kate & Alita's, 1400 McGee, Berkeley

**15** Sunday  
9 Shevat  
• 9am, UAHC Presidents' Meeting

**16** Monday  
10 Shevat  
Martin Luther King, Jr.

**17** Tuesday  
11 Shevat

**18** Wednesday  
12 Shevat  
• 7pm, Ritual Committee mailing party

**19** Thursday  
13 Shevat  
• 7pm, Building Committee  
• 7:30pm, Social Action  
• 7:30pm, Bikkur Cholim

**20** Friday  
14 Shevat  
Parshat Beshallach  
Shabbat Shira, Tu B'Shevat  
• 8:15pm, Services, Leslie Bergson, Jonathan Funk

**21** Saturday  
15 Shevat  
Tu B'Shevat  
• 9am, Kadimah  
• 11am, Tu B'Shevat Potluck for Children's Chavurah, 615 Detroit, San Francisco

**22** Sunday  
16 Shevat  
• 4pm, Ensemble  
• 4pm, New member potluck, 3621 22nd St., San Francisco

**23** Monday  
17 Shevat

**24** Tuesday  
18 Shevat

**25** Wednesday  
19 Shevat

**26** Thursday  
20 Shevat  
• 6:30pm, Ritual Committee  
• 7pm, Newsletter mailing, 11 Grandview Terrace

**27** Friday  
21 Shevat  
Parshat Yitro  
• 8:15pm, Services, Steve Greenberg

**28** Saturday  
22 Shevat  
• 9am, Kadimah  
• 10:30am, Morning Services, Bill Schlichter

**29** Sunday  
23 Shevat  
• 10:30am, Kaiser Brunch, Kaiser Hospital, S.F.

**30** Monday  
24 Shevat

**31** Tuesday  
25 Shevat

**3** Friday, February 3, 28 Shevat  
Parshat Mishpatim, Mevarchim Chodesh Adar I, 8:15pm, Leila Raim, Mike Rankin